

Burst Working Group

Policy on Coordinated Analysis and Publication of Burst Data

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The Challenge

- Both instruments may produce useful data or upper limits.
- Scientists interested in burst data come from the LAT and GBM teams, the IDS's, and the SSC, as well as the GRB community at large.
- Burst data are released immediately to the public.

Goals

The BWG will undertake to coordinate efforts to analyze and publish data on GRBs observed by GLAST. The goals of this effort are as follows:

- To maximize the scientific return from bursts observed by both LAT and GBM.
- To promote timely publication of burst results and avoid duplication of effort.
- To involve scientists from outside the GLAST team as appropriate.
- To promote equitable involvement of GLAST and non-GLAST scientists in the analysis and publication of papers on individual bursts.
- To encourage mutual cooperation without stifling healthy competition.

Scope

The primary focus is on individual GRBs for which LAT and GBM can both provide useful data or upper limits, and that are of sufficient interest to merit publication.

The secondary focus is on burst data available from only one instrument, and on global burst studies. Here, we expect to play only an informational role.

Framework

- We function primarily in an advisory role and as focus for collection and dissemination of information. Cooperation is voluntary.
- We will assign a BWG team member as burst coordinator who will serve as the GLAST focal point. That person may or may not be lead author.
- We may make recommendations, if appropriate, on selection of co-authors.
- We will provide a means for people outside the GLAST community to request to participate.
- We will disseminate information on work in progress, as authorized by the lead author.
- We will be cognizant of and disseminate information on any data rights issues (but not grant or enforce them).

Issues, Concerns, Future Work

- Guidelines for selecting coordinators and making recommendations
- Guidelines for co-authorship on combined LAT/GBM publications
- Presentation to User's Committee
- Appropriate level of involvement from outside the GLAST team
- Mechanisms for information exchange